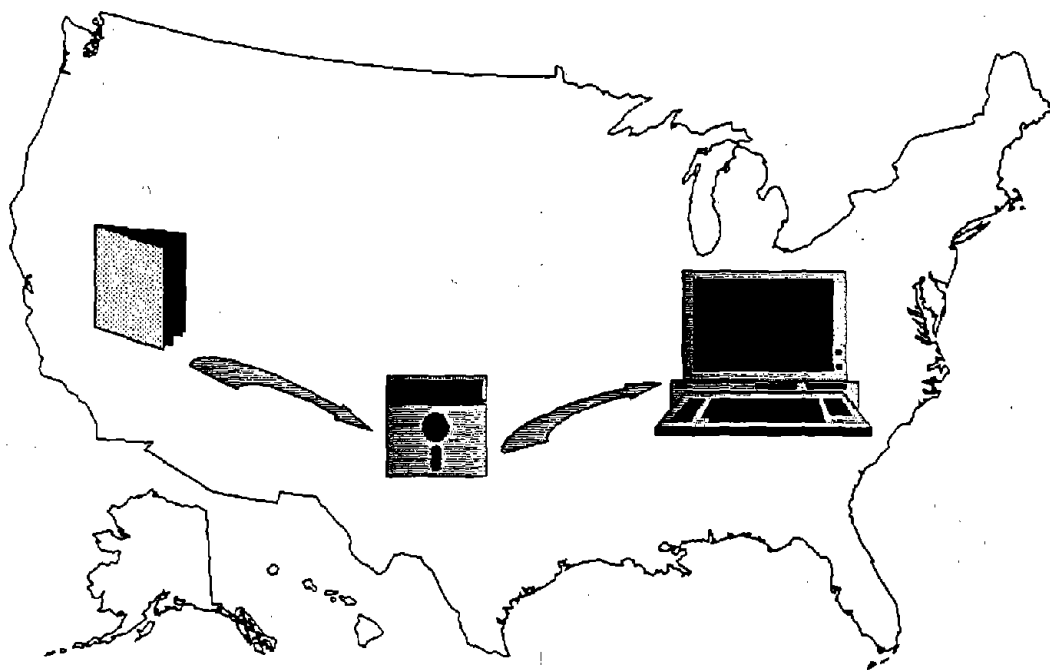




# National Radon Database

## Volume 5: State/EPA Residential Radon Survey

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**NATIONAL RADON DATABASE  
DOCUMENTATION  
Volume 5**

**The EPA/State Residential  
Radon Surveys: Years 5 and 6**

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## 1. Introduction

The National Radon Database has been developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to distribute information collected in two recently completed radon surveys:

1. The EPA/State Residential Radon Surveys, Years 1 to 6; and
2. The National Residential Radon Survey.

The State Residential Radon Surveys were conducted in 42 states and 6 Indian lands to characterize the state-wide distribution of radon screening measurements in the lowest livable area of owner-occupied homes. The National Residential Radon Survey was designed to provide an estimate of the national frequency distribution of annual average radon concentrations in occupied residences. Data and documentation for each survey are available through the National Technical Information Service (NTIS).

### 1.1 GOALS OF THE EPA/STATE RESIDENTIAL RADON SURVEYS

*These surveys are statistically valid at the state level and regional levels within each state. The results represent screening measurements and should not be used to estimate annual averages or health risks. Although states and portions of states have been characterized with high or low indoor radon results, the only way to determine the indoor radon level of an individual house is to test. EPA recommends that all homes test for elevated indoor radon levels.*

In response to the growing concern about potential health risks associated with indoor radon exposure, the EPA initiated a program in 1986 to assist states in measuring radon concentrations in homes. The importance of this program was confirmed by the Indoor Radon Abatement Act of 1988, Section 305, which directed the EPA to provide technical assistance to the States in assessing radon concentrations in homes. Through this program, the EPA provided assistance to states in the selection and testing of a

probability-based sample of houses. Research Triangle Institute (RTI) supported EPA and the states in this effort during the six years of surveys. Assistance was provided in survey design, interviewer training, sample selection, data processing, and data analysis. In addition, the Agency provided the charcoal canisters used in the surveys and also provided all laboratory analysis.

The goals of the state radon surveys were twofold. Some measure of the distribution of radon levels among residences was desired for major geographic areas within each state and for each state as a whole. In addition, it was desired that each state survey would be able to identify areas of potentially high residential radon concentrations ("hot spots") in the state, enabling the state to focus its attention on areas where indoor radon concentrations might pose a greater health threat.

To ensure the discovery of elevated radon concentrations within a home, the charcoal canisters were exposed under closed-house conditions during the winter and were placed on the lowest livable level. Thus, the estimates of indoor radon concentration provided by the surveys reflect a worst-case scenario and maximize the likelihood of identifying residences with high radon concentrations. The screening measurement provides a measurement of the maximum concentration to which occupants may be exposed. A screening measurement also provides a basis for determining whether additional measurements are needed for making a mitigation decision. Data from these state surveys should not, however, be used directly in assessing health risks, because the screening measurements may overstate annual average concentrations in living areas of these homes.

Since the winter of 1986-87, the EPA has assisted 42 states in conducting surveys of indoor  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  concentrations. The 42 states and 6 Indian lands radon surveys included in the National Radon Database were carried out during the six years of the program as listed in Table 1-1. Probability-based surveys also were conducted in six selected Indian lands during four of the six years of the program. The use of probabilities in making

house selections allows the results to be extrapolated beyond the sample itself to a well-defined population of homes through the use of sampling weights, which are included in the database for all surveys except Colorado and Connecticut.<sup>1</sup> The sampling weights should be used as described in this documentation to replicate the population estimates presented here. In addition, sample data from state surveys conducted by Colorado and Connecticut are included in the Year 1 database. The sampling weights for these states are set to a value of 0 in the database.

A two-day deployment of open-faced charcoal canisters was used by 24 states and 3 Indian lands during the first three years of the state radon survey assistance program. During these years, a diffusion barrier charcoal canister was developed specifically to be less sensitive to the effects of humidity and air flow than the open-faced canister. Two-day deployment of barrier canisters was used by the eight states and two Indian lands in Year 4 of the program. The exposure period for the barrier canisters was increased from two days to seven days for Years 5 and 6. All devices were analyzed promptly at the EPA laboratory in Montgomery, Alabama. Estimates of the relative measurement error as a percentage of the measured concentration were provided by the laboratory and are included in the database. The performance of the charcoal canisters was monitored periodically through the use of unexposed canisters, canisters exposed to known levels of <sup>222</sup>Rn, and collocated canisters.

The database now contains data on short-term screening measurements made on the lowest livable level of over 63,000 randomly selected houses during the winter heating season. Survey results for the 42 states and 6 Indian lands are listed in Table 1-2, which

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<sup>1</sup> Colorado and Connecticut conducted state surveys and these data are included in the database for Year 1. Because sampling weights could not be determined for these samples, the survey results for these two states should not be extrapolated beyond the sample. The States of Delaware, Florida, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York and Utah also have conducted their own surveys. Information concerning these state surveys is included in Appendix D.

shows for each state and Indian land the number of homes tested, the estimated number of residences in the target population, population estimates of the arithmetic mean (average) screening measurement radon concentration, and the estimated population percentage of homes with screening measurements over 4 pCi/L and over 20 pCi/L. Due to the lack of sampling weights for Colorado and Connecticut, reported results are applicable only to the sample households. Results are reported separately for the six Indian lands included in the database.

The geographical distribution of estimated mean screening-level radon concentrations is depicted in Figures 1-1 and 1-2 for the 38 states in the contiguous U.S. with probability-based survey results. These states contain 225 sub-state regions. In Figure 1-1 the regions are grouped into three categories using the estimated regional mean screening measurement: 0 to 2 pCi/L; 2 to 4 pCi/L; and greater than 4 pCi/L. In Figure 1-2, the top 60 regions with an estimated mean screening level over 4 pCi/L are displayed in three more-detailed categories: 4 to 6 pCi/L; 6 to 8 pCi/L; and greater than 8 pCi/L.

Figure 1-3 shows a map of the 10 EPA regions used to define the target population for the surveys of Indian lands. The names and addresses of the EPA regional office radon contacts are included in Appendix D.

Table 1-1 Summary of Six Years of the EPA/State Residential Radon Surveys

Year 1, 1986-87 heating season: ten states

Alabama	(AL)	Michigan	(MI)
Colorado	(CO)	Rhode Island	(RI)
Connecticut	(CT)	Tennessee	(TN)
Kansas	(KS)	Wisconsin	(WI)
Kentucky	(KY)	Wyoming	(WY)

Year 2, 1987-88 heating season: seven states and one Indian land

Arizona	(AZ)	Minnesota	(MN)
Indiana	(IN)	Missouri	(MO)
Massachusetts	(MA)	North Dakota	(ND)
Region 5 Indian Land	(R5)	Pennsylvania	(PA)

Year 3, 1988-89 heating season: eight states and two Indian lands

Alaska	(AK)	New Mexico	(NM)
Georgia	(GA)	Ohio	(OH)
Iowa	(IA)	Vermont	(VT)
Maine	(ME)	West Virginia	(WV)
Region 6 Indian Land	(R6)	Region 7 Indian Land	(R7)

Year 4, 1989-90 heating season: nine states and two Indian lands

California	(CA)	Nevada	(NV)
Hawaii	(HI)	North Carolina	(NC)
Idaho	(ID)	Oklahoma	(OK)
Louisiana	(LA)	South Carolina	(SC)
Nebraska	(NE)	Navajo Nation	(RN)
Billings, MT IHS Area	(RB)		

Year 5, 1990-91 heating season: six states and one Indian land

Arkansas	(AR)	Mississippi	(MS)
Illinois	(IL)	Texas	(TX)
Maryland	(MD)	Washington	(WA)
Eastern Cherokee Nation	(RC)		

Year 6, 1991-92 heating season: two states

Montana	(MT)	Virginia	(VA)
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Table 1-2 EPA/State Residential Radon Survey Results, Years 1 to 6

State/Indian Land	# Homes Tested	Estimated # Homes in Population	Screening-Level Estimates		
			Arithmetic Mean	Percent > 4 pCi/L	Percent > 20 pCi/L
AK	1,127	38,287	1.7	7.7	0.6
AL	1,180	565,603	1.8	6.4	0.3
AR	1,535	411,395	1.2	5.0	0.3
AZ	1,507	481,861	1.6	6.5	0.1
CA	1,885	2,232,780	1.0	2.4	0.1
CO*	1,443	1,443	5.2	41.5	2.7
CT*	1,451	1,451	2.8	18.5	0.9
GA	1,534	826,452	1.8	7.5	0.0
HI	523	67,044	0.2	0.4	0.0
IA	1,381	593,815	8.9	71.0	7.5
ID	1,266	187,124	3.3	20.3	1.1
IL	1,450	1,537,325	2.9	19.2	0.8
IN	1,914	992,634	3.7	28.5	1.5
KS	2,009	509,496	3.1	22.5	0.7
KY	879	585,655	2.7	17.1	1.5
LA	1,314	432,162	0.5	0.8	0.0
MA	1,659	1,010,301	3.4	22.7	1.3
MD	1,126	761,456	3.1	18.9	1.4
ME	839	236,917	4.1	29.9	1.9
MI	1,989	1,519,962	2.1	11.7	0.4
MN	919	966,496	4.8	45.4	1.4
MO	1,859	998,706	2.6	17.0	0.7
MS	960	352,285	0.9	2.2	0.1
MT	833	151,605	6.0	42.2	4.7
NC	1,290	1,114,747	1.4	6.7	0.3
ND	1,596	194,315	7.0	60.7	4.3
NE	2,027	310,857	5.5	53.5	1.9
NM	1,885	191,090	3.2	21.8	0.8
NV	1,562	93,004	2.0	10.2	0.8
OH	1,734	1,843,743	4.3	29.0	2.8
OK	1,637	538,309	1.1	3.3	0.0
PA	2,389	2,262,234	7.7	40.5	7.9
RI	376	165,646	3.2	20.6	1.9
SC	1,089	505,281	1.1	3.7	0.3
TN	1,773	741,551	2.7	15.8	1.3
TX	2,680	2,216,326	1.0	3.6	0.2
VA	1,156	972,708	2.3	13.9	1.2
VT	710	117,523	2.5	15.9	0.9
WA	1,935	711,965	1.7	8.8	1.3
WI	1,191	933,700	3.4	26.6	0.8
WV	1,006	324,038	2.6	15.7	0.8
WY	777	74,234	3.6	26.2	1.8
SUBTOTAL	59,395	28,773,526			
R5	934	5,328	2.9	19.7	1.3
R6	740	5,443	2.7	16.9	0.8
R7	669	8,478	5.4	34.9	2.7
RB	187	5,834	2.9	22.3	0.0
RC	594	786	0.8	1.7	0.0
RN	772	33,354	1.7	8.3	0.0
SUBTOTAL	3,896	59,223			
TOTAL	63,291				

(\*) - Colorado and Connecticut results apply only to those homes tested in the survey.

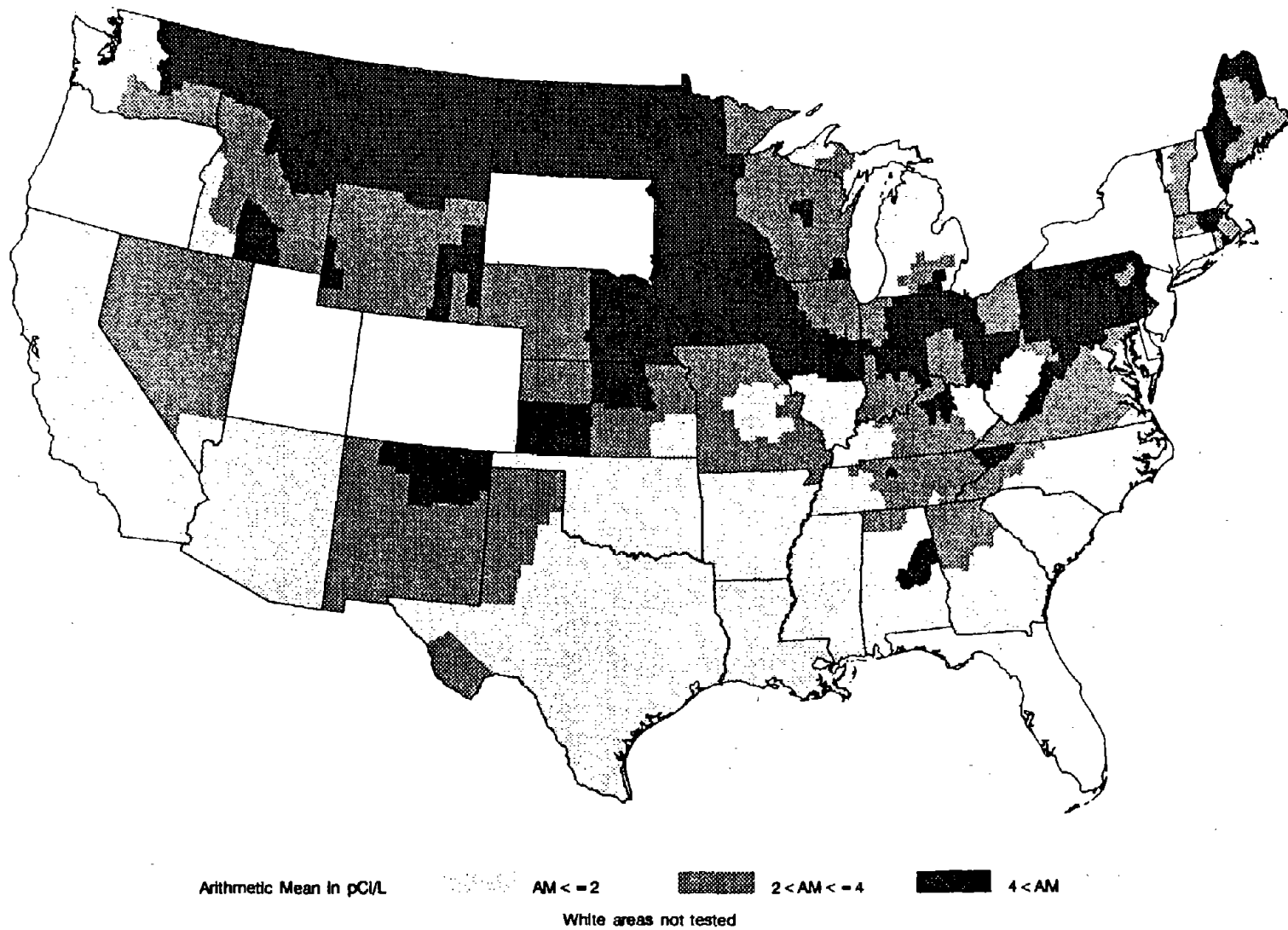


Figure 1. Distribution of Arithmetic Means of Screening Measurements in 225 Regions

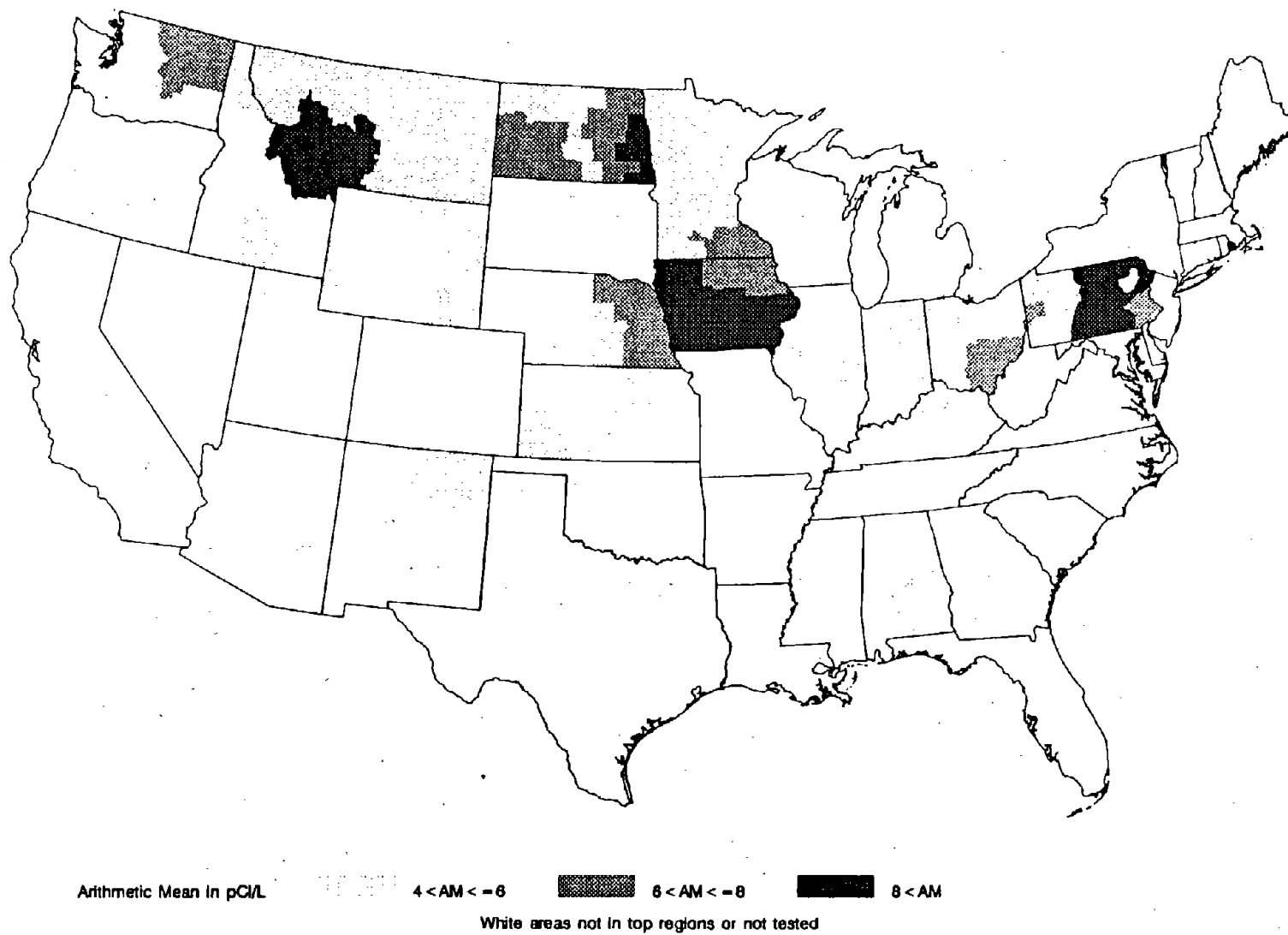


Figure 2. Distribution of Arithmetic Means of Screening Measurements in the Top 60 Regions



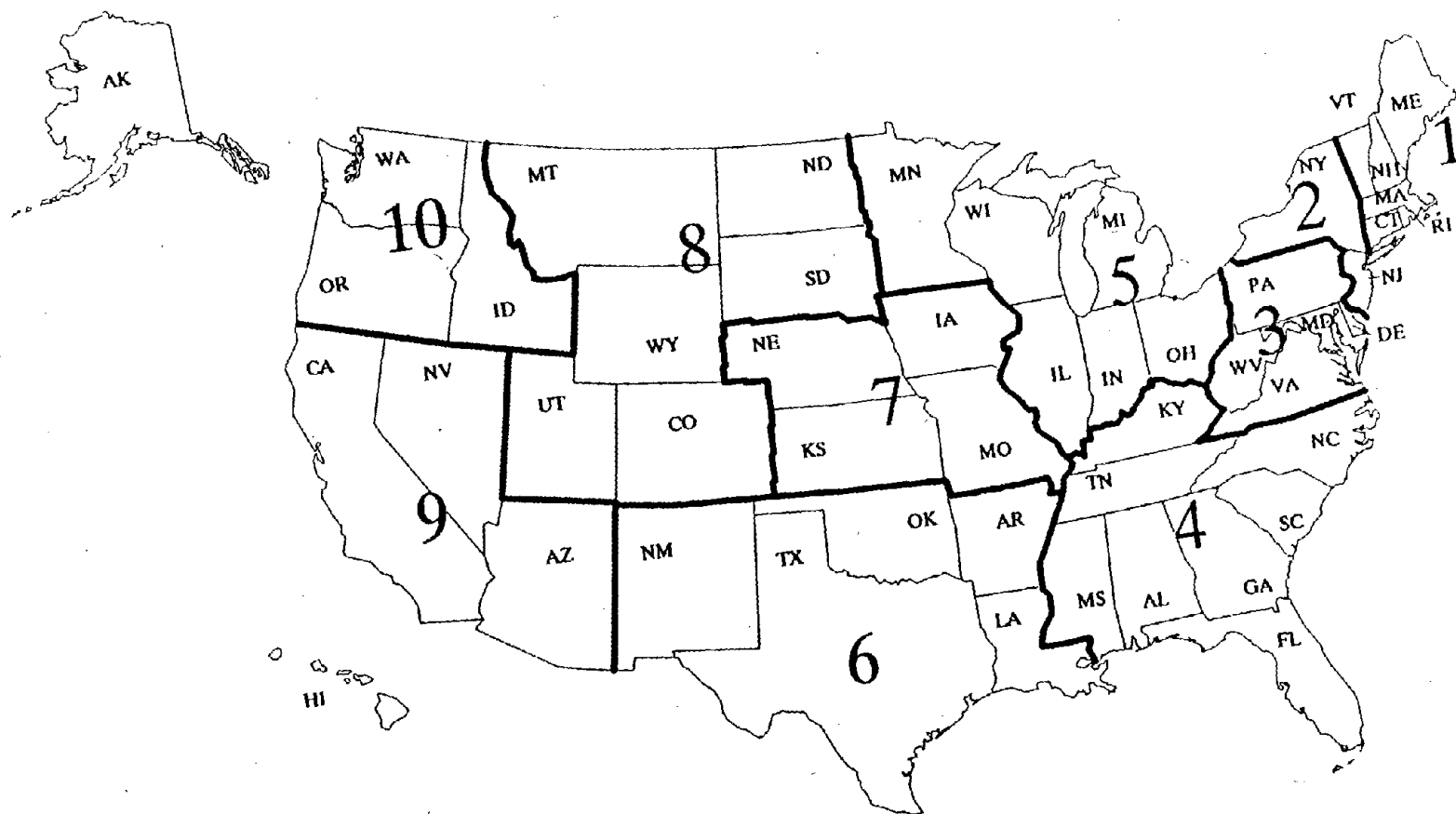


Figure 3. EPA Regions

The following seven state/EPA residential radon surveys were included in Year 5:

Arkansas	(AR)	Mississippi	(MS)
Illinois	(IL)	Texas	(TX)
Maryland	(MD)	Washington	(WA)
Eastern Cherokee Nation	(RC)		

The two Year 6 surveys were:

Montana	(MT)	Virginia	(VA)
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For each of the eight states conducting surveys during Years 5 and 6, a stratified random sample of residences with listed telephone numbers was selected. For the survey of the Eastern Cherokee Nation lands, a probability sample of residences was selected for the survey from a listing of all residences located in the designated Cherokee area. All residences that were not Housing and Urban Development (HUD) houses were included in the survey.

For each of the Year 5 and 6 states, the sample for the state radon survey was a stratified random sample of directory-listed telephone numbers. The first step in designing a survey for a state was to partition the state into three or more geographic regions for which the state wished separate statistical estimates from the survey data. These geologic groupings were then used as strata for sample selection purposes. The states were also asked to identify any areas where the residential radon levels were likely to be high. These areas were sampled at a higher rate when necessary to provide good coverage of geographic areas that were suspected of having a radon problem. For convenience in selecting the sample of telephone numbers, county boundaries were used to delineate the geographic regions.

The homes to be measured for indoor radon concentration were selected as follows. First, a probability sample of residential telephone numbers was selected from a

sampling frame constructed from the telephone directories for all communities in the state. Telephone numbers in some strata were sampled at higher rates than those in other strata in order to ensure sample sizes large enough to provide precise estimates for each of the designated reporting regions. After the sample was selected, it was partitioned into sample waves, each consisting of a random subsample of 50 telephone numbers. The sequentially numbered waves were implemented in a specified numerical order, permitting the generation of statistical estimates for the random subpart of the sample represented by the implemented waves.

Proceeding sequentially from wave to wave, telephone calls were made to the sample residential telephone numbers. The interviewer first screened for survey eligibility, which required that the dwelling have a floor on or below grade level and, for reasons of liability, that it be owner-occupied. Once survey eligibility was established, the owner-occupant was requested to participate in the survey. Descriptive material about radon and about the survey was provided either before or after solicitation of cooperation. Those agreeing to participate were provided with a canister and instructions for its use, either by mail or in person. Participants, after exposing the canister for 48 hours, sent it together with a short questionnaire describing where and when the readings had been taken, to the EPA Laboratory in Alabama.

The state radon screening survey results are statistically valid at the state and sub-state regional level. The assignment of counties to regions within each state is detailed in Table C-1 of Appendix C. The number of radon detectors (charcoal canisters) also is shown for each county in this table. Table 1-3 contains population estimates for selected parameters of the regional and state-wide radon distribution. These estimates were obtained using the appropriate sampling weights, as described in Section 3.3. The table contains estimates of the mean (average) screening measurement, the median, the geometric mean, the 75th and 90th percentiles, and the percent of houses over 4 pCi/L and over 20 pCi/L.

Table 1-3 Parameter Estimates from the Distribution of Indoor Radon Screening Measurements in Year 5 and 6 Surveys, by State and Region (1990-92)

	Number Houses Tested	Est. No. Houses in Population	Arith. Mean pCi/L	Geo. Mean pCi/L	Median pCi/L	75th Percentile pCi/L	90th Percentile pCi/L	% Houses > 4 pCi/L	% Houses > 20 pCi/L
Arkansas									
State	1,535	411,395	1.2	0.6	0.8	1.4	2.5	5.0	0.3
Region 1	481	124,134	1.8	0.9	1.0	1.9	3.7	9.1	0.9
Region 2	245	61,542	1.4	0.7	0.8	1.6	3.7	7.8	0.0
Region 3	251	36,635	1.0	0.6	0.7	1.3	2.0	2.0	0.0
Region 4	199	54,989	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.8	1.2	0.0	0.0
Region 5	173	72,576	1.1	0.7	0.8	1.3	2.1	4.1	0.0
Region 6	186	61,519	0.9	0.6	0.6	1.1	1.7	1.3	0.0
Illinois									
State	1,450	1,537,325	2.9	1.5	1.8	3.4	6.0	19.2	0.8
Region 1	390	966,688	2.5	1.3	1.6	2.9	5.1	15.9	0.5
Region 2	539	340,625	4.6	2.7	2.9	5.5	9.6	35.3	2.0
Region 3	521	230,012	2.0	1.1	1.2	2.3	4.0	9.6	0.2
Maryland									
State	1,126	761,456	3.1	1.1	1.2	3.1	8.0	18.9	1.4
Region 1	255	57,997	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.7	2.1	4.4	0.0
Region 2	262	198,345	2.0	0.9	1.0	1.9	4.5	11.5	0.7
Region 3	293	433,300	3.6	1.2	1.4	3.5	8.4	21.1	1.5
Region 4	316	71,813	5.5	2.6	2.7	7.0	13.6	38.3	4.1
Mississippi									
State	960	352,285	0.9	0.5	0.5	1.1	2.1	2.2	0.1
Region 1	137	49,514	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.5	1.0	0.9	0.0
Region 2	189	80,006	0.9	0.5	0.5	1.1	2.2	2.3	0.0
Region 3	165	118,667	0.8	0.5	0.6	1.0	1.9	1.6	0.0
Region 4	126	8,364	1.1	0.5	0.6	1.3	2.7	2.2	0.0
Region 5	164	69,140	1.2	0.6	0.7	1.3	2.5	3.8	0.6
Region 6	179	26,595	1.0	0.6	0.6	1.3	2.1	2.2	0.0
Montana									
State	833	151,605	6.0	3.4	3.4	6.2	13.1	42.2	4.7
Region 1	264	52,918	5.6	2.9	2.8	5.3	11.8	36.4	2.7
Region 2	266	50,799	8.3	4.5	4.2	9.1	17.9	52.5	9.8
Region 3	303	47,888	4.1	3.0	3.3	5.1	7.5	37.6	1.4

Table 1-3 Parameter Estimates from the Distribution of Indoor Radon Screening Measurements in Years 5 and 6 Surveys, by State and Region (1990-92)  
(Continued)

	Number Houses Tested	Est. No. Houses in Population	Arith. Mean pCi/L	Geo. Mean pCi/L	Median pCi/L	75th Percentile pCi/L	90th Percentile pCi/L	% Houses > 4 pCi/L	% Houses > 20 pCi/L
Texas									
State	2,680	2,216,326	1.0	0.5	0.6	1.2	2.2	3.6	0.2
Region 1	210	97,964	0.9	0.6	0.8	1.2	1.9	1.4	0.0
Region 2	93	52,968	1.0	0.5	0.5	1.0	1.8	2.2	1.1
Region 3	116	2,253	2.8	1.9	2.2	3.3	4.9	18.2	0.0
Region 4	246	12,680	1.6	0.9	1.0	1.6	2.5	3.7	0.4
Region 5	338	407,427	1.0	0.6	0.7	1.3	2.1	2.7	0.0
Region 6	169	398,856	1.1	0.7	0.8	1.3	2.3	3.6	0.0
Region 7	294	168,490	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.8	1.2	1.3	0.3
Region 8	219	11,260	1.4	0.8	1.0	1.6	2.9	7.4	0.0
Region 9	218	300,639	1.2	0.7	0.8	1.4	2.4	4.9	0.0
Region 10	199	98,201	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.6	1.3	0.8	0.0
Region 11	115	273,938	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.0	0.0
Region 12	208	246,907	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.0
Region 13	255	144,741	3.4	2.1	1.9	3.7	6.6	22.4	2.0
Virginia									
State	1,156	972,708	2.3	1.0	1.1	2.4	5.0	13.9	1.2
Region 1	155	231,538	1.9	1.2	1.4	2.3	3.9	8.8	0.0
Region 2	222	137,650	3.4	1.7	1.8	3.7	6.4	23.4	1.8
Region 3	381	236,560	3.8	1.9	2.1	4.3	7.7	27.5	2.9
Region 4	262	163,075	2.1	0.9	0.9	1.9	3.9	9.5	1.2
Region 5	136	203,884	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.7	1.3	0.7	0.0
Washington									
State	1,935	711,965	1.7	0.4	0.4	1.2	3.5	8.8	1.3
Region 1	708	88,401	7.7	3.3	3.5	7.9	18.7	45.0	8.9
Region 2	452	183,423	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.9	2.4	4.8	0.3
Region 3	414	70,753	2.3	1.2	1.2	2.2	4.6	12.5	1.0
Region 4	361	369,389	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.5	1.1	1.3	0.0
Eastern Cherokee Nation									
All	594	786	0.839	0.479	0.5	1	1.8	1.684	0

In summary, each state radon survey is designed to provide statistical estimates of radon concentration

- In owner-occupied residences,
- With listed telephones numbers, and
- A floor at or below ground level.

The survey of Indian lands is designed to provide estimates of radon concentrations in non-HUD occupied residences having a floor at or below ground level.

## 2. The Sample Design

### 2.1 THE OVERALL SAMPLING PLAN

The sampling plan for the state radon surveys called for the selection of probability samples of residences in each state. A probability sample is one in which every element in the population has a known positive chance of selection, and, for every element in the sample, the selection probability or relative probability is known. Probability sampling permits the extrapolation of survey results to the entire population and, in addition, permits the calculation of measures of precision for the estimates. Because one of the goals of each state radon survey was the generation of estimates of distributions of residential radon levels for the state as a whole and for the major geographic areas within the state, use of probability sampling was imperative. Probability-based surveys were also necessary to validly compare results from one state with results from other.

### 2.2 POPULATION DEFINITION AND SAMPLING FRAMES

The target population for the surveys in all eight of Year 5 and Year 6 states consisted of owner-occupied homes with permanent foundations and at least one floor at or below ground level and with a telephone number published in the latest directory. (Mobile homes with permanent foundations and airtight panels/skirts and with a published telephone number are also included.) The statistical estimates generated from the survey data apply to this population.

In reality, the totality of occupied residences in the state constituted the population of interest. However, as is often the case in survey research, surveying this population was not deemed feasible, for several reasons. First, it was considered inadvisable from a legal perspective to include rental dwellings without first obtaining the permission of the owner. Although procedures could be devised to obtain such permission, the cost in doing so both in dollars and in delay in the survey schedule was deemed impractical.

Second, homes that had no floor on or below ground level were excluded from the survey target population. Although these homes are no doubt usually rental apartment units, the category would include some owner-occupied condominiums. These were excluded from the target population because radon levels on upper floors were expected to be low, and it was felt that the focus of the survey should be on residences that were potentially at risk. Third, the survey target population was restricted to homes with listed telephone numbers, basically because of time and cost considerations. Sampling of homes without regard to the existence a telephone would call for an area probability procedure, which required on-site staff for both listing and data collection and is both expensive and time consuming. The telephone survey approach was used because it offered a more economically feasible alternative. Telephone surveys can be implemented using a relatively small staff working in a central location, and can be carried out on short notice and within a restricted time schedule.

Two types of samples are commonly used for telephone surveys, random digit dialing samples, for which every possible telephone number is given a positive chance of being selected into the sample, and telephone directory samples, for which only listed telephone numbers are given a chance of selection. All Year 5 and Year 6 state radon surveys used samples selected from directory-based files.

## 2.3 STRATIFICATION AND SAMPLE ALLOCATION

To improve the precision of the survey estimates and to ensure an adequate sample size in each of the desired reporting regions, the sampling frame for each of the eight states was stratified by reporting region prior to sample selection. Because different sampling rates can be used for different strata, it was possible to control the size of the sample to be selected from each reporting region. Two or more alternative sampling allocations were produced and provided to each state. The first allocation was based on equal probability sampling, which yields samples that are distributed across strata in the same



way the population is distributed. One of the disadvantages of equal probability sampling is that it can result in small sample sizes for small reporting groups.

The second alternative allocation that was provided avoided this potential problem by allocating the sample equally to the different strata. However, to achieve an equal allocation when the strata vary in size, different sampling rates must be used for the different strata. The unequal sampling weights, which must be used in the estimation process in order to account for the differing sampling rates, can have the effect of lowering the precision of the statewide estimates.

There were obvious tradeoffs among the different allocation alternative. For each allocation provided to a state, a table showing the expected precision for statewide and reporting group estimates was provided. This enabled the state to view the tradeoffs in precision associated with the different types of allocations.

States were typically interested in the number of homes that will be tested in each of the counties of the state. For each of the sample allocations, a distribution showing the expected sample size for each county was therefore produced using the Market Statistics' estimate of the number of occupied housing units in each county in 1989 for the Year 5 surveys and in 1990 for the Year 6 surveys.

Each Year 5 state was provided with descriptive information about the proportional allocation, based on equal probability sampling, and the equal allocation. The information provided consisted of tables showing the expected precision of the survey estimates and the expected distribution of the sample, described above, as well as a discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of each allocation. The state representatives were therefore able to consider two sample designs prior to participating in the detailed survey planning sessions that were carried out for each state survey at the conclusion of the orientation meeting. Tables for additional allocations were prepared when appropriate so that the state could see the effect of increasing or decreasing the

overall size of the sample, the effect of sampling more heavily in sparsely settled areas, or the effect of sampling more heavily in areas that were suspected of having elevated residential radon levels.

Year 6 states were handled in a similar fashion, with all interaction about alternative sample allocations taking place by telephone instead of in person.

After considering all of the allocation options provided, the state, with EPA's approval, decided on one of the allocations. A description of the allocation that was chosen by the state, the target number of canisters to be placed, the sampling rates used in each of the strata, and the expected design effect (DEFF) due to unequal weighting for variables that are uniformly distributed across strata are presented for each state in Appendix C.

Following guidelines determined by the agreed upon allocation, the samples for the eight states were selected from the Donnelley Marketing files. In all cases, detailed instructions for ordering the file and selecting the sample for each state were prepared. The instructions called for ordering the residential telephone listings in each stratum by the size rank of the county in which the residence was located, then by the census block group or enumeration district. The listings were finally ordered by telephone number. This ensured maximum geographic spread when systematic random sample selection procedures were used.

## 2.4 SAMPLE SELECTION PROCEDURES

To permit the unbiased estimation of the sampling errors of the survey estimates of radon characteristics for the state and for major geographic subparts of the state, five independent systematic random samples were selected from each stratum. To do this, RTI provided the sample size to be selected from each stratum for each of the five samples, a list of the counties that made up each stratum, and the specifications for

ordering the file within each stratum. The sample selection instructions that were provided are presented in Table 2-1.

The following variables were requested on tape for each sample selection:

1. State code from the Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS),
2. County FIPS code,
3. Stratum,
4. Area code,
5. Telephone number,
6. Name,
7. Mailing address,
8. Zip code, and
9. Sample (or replicate) number (1-5)

In addition to the tape, a printout was requested for the state showing, for each stratum, the values for L, S, and I, as defined in Table 2-1.

Table 2-1 Procedures for Selecting the Sample of Telephone Numbers

1. Sort all residential telephone numbers in the state as specified.
2. Determine the number of listings of residential telephone numbers on the file for the stratum. Call this number L.
3. Identify the sample size specified for the stratum and call this number S.
4. Divide L by S to obtain the Selection Interval I.
5. Select 5 different random numbers between (and including) 1 and I
6. Successively add I to the first random number to generate approximately S selection numbers for the stratum to identify the sample telephone numbers on the ordered list.
7. Repeat step 6 for each of the other four random numbers until all five random samples of size S have been selected.
8. When this procedure has been implemented for all strata defined for a state, the state's sample selection is complete.

## 2.5 PARTITIONING THE SAMPLES INTO WAVES

Estimating the exact number of sample selections that would be needed in a state survey to be able to place the desired number of canisters was very difficult. There were numerous unknowns: the proportion of the selected telephone numbers that were working residential numbers, the proportion of residential numbers that would be associated with survey-eligible residences, and the proportion of eligible residences that would participate in the study. Another very important unknown was when the weather in the state would become so warm that the closed house requirement for canister deployment could not be met, and the survey would have to be discontinued.

There is a commonly used technique for controlling the number of survey participants in situations where there are many unknowns involved in estimating the number of sample selections needed. The procedure involves partitioning the sample into a number of random subsamples and implementing only as many of the subsamples as are needed to achieve the desired number of participants. This technique was used for all eight Year 5 and Year 6 state surveys.

A sample sufficiently large for any reasonable set of assumptions was selected as described above. It was then partitioned into random subsamples, or waves, of 50 telephone listings each. The waves were randomly ordered and numbered sequentially, and they were activated specified numerical order by the states. Implementation of the sample in random subparts meant that a state did not need to complete all sample waves.

The procedures used in processing the file and partitioning the sample into waves were:

1. The sample of 10-digit telephone numbers was checked for duplicates, which were eliminated, and was checked to verify that the proper number of records had been provided for each replicate in each stratum.

2. The total number of waves, W, into which the sample was to be partitioned was determined by dividing the number of records on the file by 50.
3. The waves number 1 through W were put in random order and assigned to the first W records of the file. The wave numbers 1 through W were again placed in a random order and assigned to the second W records on the file, etc., until each record had been assigned a Wave number.
4. The records were ordered by wave number and a Case ID number was assigned sequentially.

## 2.6 THE INDIAN LANDS SURVEYS

The Eastern Cherokee Nation located in North Carolina was canvassed in its entirety and a listing of every housing unit was constructed. Each HUD home was simply marked "HUD." For each non-HUD home, the interviewer solicited cooperation from the occupants to participate in the survey. They additionally completed a short questionnaire. Placement and retrieval of canisters were typically carried out by the interviewer.

Note that in Years 5 and 6 duplicate canisters were not placed in a random subsample of homes. This procedure had been discontinued in Year 3 because participants in Years 1 and 2 had not consistently exposed duplicate canisters in the same room at the same time. Duplicate measurements in Years 5 and 6 were made in the homes of interviewers and in chamber exposures.



### 3. Estimation Using Survey Results

#### 3.1 CALCULATION OF SAMPLING WEIGHTS

Because most of the states used unequal probability sample designs for their state radon surveys, sampling weights that counter-balance the unequal probabilities of selection must be used in order to generate unbiased state-wide population estimates from the survey data. Sampling weights that reflect only the differential selection probabilities would be adequate if 100 percent response rates and participation rates were achieved. However, this level of response is rarely obtained. For the state radon surveys, some of the sample cases failed to complete a screening interview, either because they were never successfully contacted or because they refused to provide the screening information. Whether or not they were in fact eligible was, therefore, never determined. For other cases the screening information was provided, and the housing unit was determined to be eligible for the survey, but a canister reading was not successfully linked to the case. There are numerous reasons why this might have occurred.

The canister may not have been read, because it was never deployed; it may have been deployed but never returned; or it may have been returned but not received in time to be included in the analysis. In addition, clerical or keying errors associated with matching criteria could have prevented matching canister readings with the proper cases. In order to compensate for the missing information, a weighting class adjustment was used. This procedure increased the sampling weights of participants to compensate for the missing information from nonparticipants. The steps used in calculating sampling weights and adjustments for the eight Year 5 and 6 states are described below.

The first step in calculating the sampling weight was determined from the information provided by Donnelley Market Services. For each stratum in the sample, we were provided with the number of listings from which the sample was selected. RTI had specified the number of selections that should be made. Using this information the first

component of the sampling weight was computed for each stratum, and used for all selections from that stratum. For any stratum  $h$ , the first sampling weight component was calculated as

$$w'_h = N_h / [(5)(n_h)], \quad (1)$$

because 5 samples of size  $n_h$  were selected from  $N_h$  listings in stratum  $h$ .

As was described in Chapter 2, each state's sample was randomly partitioned into waves of 50 listings each, each wave being in effect a probability sample of the entire sample. Although all waves were available for use in the state radon survey, not all were used. The second component of the sampling weight represented the portion of the sample waves that were included in the analysis. Any wave for which at least 45 of the 50 cases were completed was considered to have been implemented, and was referred to as an "active" wave. Computer runs were made on the Control /Screening form file to determine which waves would be classified as "active" and included in the analysis and which would not. For each state, we then computed the sampling weight component reflecting the proportion of wave classified as active. This was merely the total number of waves of 50 listings divided by the number of waves classified as active waves, or  $V/v$ . Only cases in the  $v$  active waves were used in the remaining calculations and in the analysis.

Next an unadjusted sampling weight was calculated for every selected case in every active wave, regardless of the response or participation status of the case. This weight was merely the product of the two weight components.

$$w''_h = (w'_h)(V/v) \quad (2)$$

Next, every record in every active wave was compared to the file of canister readings and, by matching on House ID number, was classified as a participant or a nonparticipant. All active wave cases classed as participants would be used in the



analysis, because they were in an active wave and had a canister reading. In order to adjust for missing canister readings for the remaining survey eligibles that did not participate, all active wave nonparticipant cases were further classified according to eligibility status. The following groups were formed for the active wave cases:

- Group A: Participants (all eligible cases for which a canister reading was available)
- Group B: Survey eligible nonparticipants
- Group C: Nonparticipants, survey eligibility unknown. (All cases for which eligibility information was never obtained.)
- Group D: Nonparticipants known to be ineligible for the survey.

These four groupings were used in calculating the adjustments for nonresponse.

Five weighting classes were formed within each stratum, each being one of the five replicates used in the sample selection. Within each weighting class an adjustment for nonresponse factor was computed in two steps as follows:

First, an estimate of the proportion of cases that were survey eligible was computed.

$$A'_{sh} = \frac{|\Sigma W''_{shi}|_A + |\Sigma W''_{shi}|_B}{|\Sigma W''_{shi}|_A + |\Sigma W''_{shi}|_B + |\Sigma W''_{shi}|_D} \quad (3)$$

where

$|\Sigma W''_{shi}|_A$  is the sum of the unadjusted sampling weights over all participants  $i$  in the  $s$  replica in stratum  $h$ , and where subscripts B and D refer to survey eligible nonparticipants and nonparticipants known to be ineligible, respectively.

The proportion  $A'_{shi}$  was used to estimate the proportion eligible among those for whom eligibility has not been determined. This figure was needed in order to determine the nonresponse adjustment factor for each replica  $s$  within each stratum  $h$ .

$$A'_{shi} = \frac{|\Sigma W''_{shi}|_A + |\Sigma W''_{shi}|_B + A'_{sh} |\Sigma W''_{shi}|_C}{|\Sigma W''_{shi}|_A} \quad (4)$$

where  $|\Sigma W''_{shi}|_C$  is the sum of the unadjusted weights over all nonparticipants with unknown eligibility and where all other terms are as defined above.

The final sampling weight was then calculated for each sample case in every active wave as:

$$W_{shi} = (W''_{shi}) (A'_{shi}), \quad (5)$$

and the sampling weight  $W_{shi}$  was used as the sampling weight in all analysis. The sampling weights calculated by the procedure above are included in the Year 5 and 6 data file. Instructions for use of the weights are given below.

### 3.2 CALCULATION OF SAMPLING WEIGHTS FOR INDIAN LANDS SURVEY

Because all survey eligible non-HUD housing units were included in the North Carolina Eastern Cherokee Nation survey  $W''_h = 1$ . The sampling weights that were calculated are simply equal to the adjustment for nonresponse that was made using formulas (4) and (5).

### 3.3 ESTIMATING MEANS AND PROPORTIONS

The analytical results calculated from the survey radon measurements should reflect the sampling weights define in the previous sections. Computer software was developed by Research Triangle Institute for analyzing the data collected in this complex multistage

sample survey. Formulas used in the software for estimating means and proportions are shown below.

Define  $Y_r^*$  as the true mean radon level for the  $r^{\text{th}}$  region or reporting group ( $r=1,\dots,R$ ).  $Y_r^*$  can be estimated as

$$Y_r^* = \frac{\sum_{h=1}^H \sum_{i=1}^{n_h} J_{rhi} W_{hi} Y_{hi}}{\sum_{h=1}^H \sum_{i=1}^{n_h} J_{rhi} W_{hi}} \quad (6)$$

where  $Y_{hi}$  = observed radon measurement for the  $i^{\text{th}}$  eligible household in stratum  $h$  ( $i=1,\dots,n_h$ ,  $h=1,\dots,H$ );

$W_{hi}$  = sampling weight associated with  $Y_{hi}$ ; and

$J_{rhi}$  =  $\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i^{\text{th}} \text{ eligible household in stratum } h \text{ is in the } r^{\text{th}} \text{ region,} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

The estimated mean for all regions combined (i.e., the statewide estimate) is given by

$$Y_o^* = \frac{\sum_{h=1}^H \sum_{i=1}^{n_h} W_{hi} Y_{hi}}{\sum_{h=1}^H \sum_{i=1}^{n_h} W_{hi}} \quad (7)$$

Similarly, define  $P_r^*$  as the true proportion of eligible households in the  $r^{\text{th}}$  region with radon levels exceeding  $X$  pCi/l.  $P_r^*$  can be estimated as

$$P_r^* = \frac{\sum_{h=1}^H \sum_{i=1}^{n_h} J_{rhi} W_{hi} I_{xhi}}{\sum_{h=1}^H \sum_{i=1}^{n_h} J_{rhi} W_{hi}} \quad (8)$$

where

$W_{hi}$  and  $J_{rhi}$  are as previous defined and

$$I_{xhi} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if measurement on } i^{\text{th}} \text{ eligible household in stratum } h \text{ is} \\ & \text{greater than } X \text{ pCi/l} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The estimated proportion for all regions combined (i.e., the statewide estimate) is given by

$$p_o^* = \frac{\sum_{h=1}^H \sum_{i=1}^{n_h} w_{hi} I_{xhi}}{\sum_{h=1}^H \sum_{i=1}^{n_h} w_{hi}} \quad (9)$$

#### 4. Methodological Results

The survey methodology used for the fifth and sixth years of the SRRS radon survey program was reviewed at five different levels:

- First, the coverage of each state survey was assessed. To do this, four different estimates were compared of the number of owner-occupied single family housing units having a telephone, which was the approximate definition of the survey-eligible population. For each state, the survey estimate of this population size was compared to an estimate based on the 1980 Census counts for the state, to an estimate made using current counts from the Donnelley Marketing Service files from which most of the state samples were selected, and to an estimate based on the Market Statistics' projections.
- Second, the response rate and the participation rate obtained in each of the states were computed. These were simply the ratio of the number of respondents to the number of survey eligibles and the ratio of the of usable canister readings to the number of eligibles.
- Third, the number of cases for which eligibility status was never determined was reviewed.
- Fourth, the Control/Screening Forms that were returned by the states to identify the types of errors that the states made in carrying out the survey were reviewed.
- Fifth, all of the problems that occurred throughout the course of all of the Year 5 and 6 state radon surveys were assessed to determine whether modifications were needed in survey procedures.

In the sections that follow, several of these assessments of the state radon survey methodology are discussed.

##### 4.1 COVERAGE

The results of the coverage investigation are presented in Table 4-1. For each of the eight Year 5 and Year 6 states, the number of owner-occupied single family housing

Table 4-1 State Radon Surveys Project: Comparison of Estimates of Survey Eligibles

1980				1989-90 Donnelley				
Census								
State	Number of Occupied Housing Units (1)	Percent Owner-Occupied (2)	Estimated Number of Owner-Occupied Single Family Housing Units with Telephone (3)*	Number of Housing Units with Telephone (4)	Estimated Number of Owner-Occupied Single Family Housing Units with Telephone (5)**	Ratio of Donnelley-Estimated Eligibles to Census-Estimated Eligibles (5) ÷ (3) = (6)	Ratio of Donnelley-Estimated Eligibles to Market Statistics* Estimated Eligibles (5) ÷ (9) = (7)	
AR	816,000	70.5	524,540	618,396	409,811	0.78	0.49	
IL	4,045,000	62.6	2,308,833	2,635,856	1,551,043	0.67	0.39	
MD	1,461,000	62.0	825,927	1,177,483	686,237	0.83	0.44	
MS	827,000	71.0	535,382	586,229	391,349	0.73	0.45	
TX	4,929,000	64.3	2,889,811	3,689,985	2,230,301	0.77	0.40	
WA	1,541,000	65.6	921,735	1,232,904	760,258	0.83	0.45	
MT	283,742	68.6	177,479	218,408	140,838	0.79	0.43	
VA	1,863,073	65.6	1,114,380	1,492,778	920,507	0.83	0.40	
December 1988 Market Statistics				State Radon Survey Estimates				
State	Number of Occupied Housing Units (8)	Estimated Number of Owner-Occupied Single Family Housing Units with Telephone (9)*	Ratio of Market Statistics* Estimated Eligibles to Census Estimate Eligibles (9) ÷ (3) = (10)	Sample Sizes (11)	Estimated Number of Survey Eligibles Housing Units (12)	Ratio of Survey-Estimated Eligibles to Census Estimate Eligibles (12) ÷ (3) = (13)	Ratio of Survey-Estimated Eligibles to Market Statistics (12) ÷ (9) = (14)	Ratio of Survey-Estimated Eligibles to Donnelley Estimate Eligibles (12) ÷ (5) = (15)
AR	910,300	830,011	1.58	1,535	411,395	0.78	0.50	1.00
IL	4,381,400	3,994,960	1.73	1,450	1,537,325	0.67	0.39	0.99
MD	1,727,200	1,574,861	1.91	1,126	761,456	0.92	0.48	1.11
MS	952,700	868,672	1.62	960	352,285	0.66	0.41	0.90
TX	6,187,300	5,641,763	1.95	2,680	2,216,326	0.77	0.39	0.99
WA	1,857,000	1,693,213	1.84	1,935	711,965	0.77	0.42	0.94
MT	361,155	329,301	1.86	833	151,605	0.85	0.46	1.08
VA	2,496,778	2,276,562	2.04	1,156	972,708	0.87	0.43	1.06

\* Assuming 94 percent of owner-occupied units are one unit structures (1983). Also assuming 97 percent of housing units have a telephone (1981).

\*\* Assuming column (2) percent owner-occupied and that 94 percent of these are one unit structures.

units with a telephone was estimated using 1980 Decennial Census information, using Donnelley file counts, using the Market Statistics' estimates, and using SRRS results. In constructing these estimates, the percentage of housing units that were owner-occupied was available by state, but the percentage of owner-occupied housing units that were single unit structures was available only for the nation as a whole. The national average, showing 94 percent of all owner-occupied housing as being single unit structures, was therefore used in the calculations for each of the states. In addition, the nationwide estimate of 97 percent was used for the percentage of owner-occupied single structure housing units having a telephone. Even though the comparisons were made using rough estimates, some idea of the approximate coverage attained in each of the surveys was achieved.

Column 3 of Table 4-1 shows an estimate of the approximate number of survey-eligible housing units using 1980 Census counts, and columns 5 and 9 show comparable estimates made from the Donnelley file counts and Market Statistics' estimates, respectively. The ratios of the Donnelley estimates to the Census estimates, shown in column 6, vary from a low of 0.67 for Illinois to a high of 0.83 for Maryland, Washington, and Virginia.

Column 7 shows comparable ratios for estimates of survey eligibles based on Donnelley file counts to estimates made from Market Statistics' data. These ratios vary from a low of 0.39 for Illinois to a high of 0.49 for Arkansas. The two sets of ratios were calculated to get a very rough indication of what might be missed by using the Donnelley files as sampling frames, without using a supplementary procedure for picking up housing units not linked to a Donnelley listing, but otherwise survey-eligible. Low ratios indicate a potential for a sizable undercoverage.

Column 15 shows the ratio of the number of survey eligibles in each state, as estimated from the survey itself, to the estimate made directly from the Donnelley frame counts. This ratio was calculated as a measure of the loss suffered because of recent movers and possibly because of households being difficult to reach by telephone. Recall that the

sampling procedures involved the selection of sample telephone numbers and the housing units linked to those telephone numbers, regardless of whether the address was the same as that given in the sampling frame. Therefore, housing units of recent movers are picked up but not to the degree to which they are lost. The telephone number of a mover is typically retired for a period of 6 months to a year, unless it is carried to the new home. Therefore, although a good many movers are reached at their new home, intrastate movers who change telephone numbers and those who move in from another state are lost if the move occurs after the directory cutoff date for the Donnelley listings.

The ratio of survey-estimated survey eligibles to Donnelley-estimated survey eligibles are all near 1.00, indicating little expected loss because of movers.

#### 4.2 RESPONSE RATES

Approximate response and participation rates for the seven Year 5 and two Year 6 surveys are presented in the bottom two rows of Table 4-2. The percentage of known survey-eligible housing units in which the respondent agreed to place a charcoal canister ranges from a low of about 80 percent for Illinois to a high of over 92 percent for Montana.

Participation rates show the percentage of known survey-eligible homes for which a usable canister reading was obtained. These percentages vary from a low of about 56 percent for Mississippi to a high of about 77 percent for Montana and 76 percent for the Eastern Cherokee Indians. The high figure for the latter group represents the success of the personal placement and retrieval procedures used in this survey.

Although the average response rate for known eligibles for the nine Year 5 and Year 6 surveys was about 88 percent, the average participation rate was only about 66 percent, a drop of about 22 percentage points. Getting people to return their canisters immediately after exposing them for the designated period was an aspect of data collection that has



Table 4-2 Disposition of Sample Cases

	AR	IL	MD	MS	TX	WA	Eastern Cherokee Nation	MT	VA
Sample Waves Activated	1-5; 7-10 21-89	1-13 21-117	1-6 21-92	1-7 21-81	1-20 21-213	1-14 21-120	1	1-5 21-587	1-6; 8-10 21-84
Sample Waves Used in Analysis	1-5; 7-10 21-89	1-13 21-117	1-6 21-92	1-7 21-81	1-10; 13-20 21-212	1-10; 12-14 21-120	1	1-5 21-58	1-6; 8-10 21-84
C/S Forms Received	3,899	5,497	3,894	3,400	10,598	5,645	673	2,149	3,646
Cases Used in Analysis	3,900	5,500	3,900	3,400	10,500	5,650	786	2,150	3,650
Status Eligibility Status, Code Canister Acceptance									
A1 Eligible, Accepted	2,011	2,016	1,642	1,518	3,973	2,367	673	1,005	1,618
A2 Eligible, Refused	241	510	160	185	514	336	113	83	249
C Eligibility unknown	525	1,377	1,088	485	3,269	1,024	0	529	774
O Not Eligible	836	1,224	762	930	2,098	1,475	0	351	750
D Not a Residence	<u>286</u>	<u>370</u>	<u>242</u>	<u>282</u>	<u>744</u>	<u>443</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>181</u>	<u>255</u>
Total	3,899	5,497	3,894	3,400	10,598	5,645	786	2,149	3,646
U Usable Readings	1,535	1,450	1,126	960	2,680	1,935	594	833	1,156
Response Rate [A <sub>1</sub> /(A <sub>1</sub> + A <sub>2</sub> )]	89.3	79.8	91.1	89.1	88.5	87.6	85.6	92.4	86.7
Participation Rate [O(A <sub>1</sub> + A <sub>2</sub> )]	68.2	57.4	62.5	56.4	60.2	71.7	75.6	76.6	61.9

\* For the Navajo Indian Survey, this category includes not able to place because of absence or disability of householder.

\*\* For the Navajo Indian Survey, these 2,545 cases include extra forms sent out to the field but not used.

continued to be given a great deal of emphasis. States were encouraged to recontact people to whom a canister has been sent, but no reading received, to remind them to deploy their canister and to return it immediately after exposure. Nevertheless, the loss due to failure to deploy and return canisters continued to be a major problem. The 22 percent average loss for the nine Year 5 and Year 6 surveys is considerably greater than the 13 percent average loss that plagued the eight Year 3 state surveys and somewhat greater than the 18 percent loss obtain in the Year 4 surveys. Although the diffusion barrier charcoal canister was first used in Year 4, instead of the open faced charcoal canister that had been used in the previous three years, the two-day exposure period was the same for all of the first four years of surveys. The seven day exposure period used in the Year 5 and Year 6 surveys may be at least partially responsible for the increase in loss.

#### 4.3 UNKNOWN ELIGIBILITY STATUS

Most of the Year 5 and Year 6 states did an excellent job in returning all Control/Screening Forms for all of their activated waves. This aspect of the data collection process was emphasized in all training sessions because it had been found to be a major problem in Year 1. There does, however, continue to be a large number of "eligibility unknown" cases and these were especially high for Texas, where over one-third of all activated sample cases were so classified. The "eligibility unknown" classification was assigned not only to cases in activated waves for which no screening form was received, but also to cases with repeated ring-no-answer calls and to cases for which a contact was made but the screening interview was not completed to the point where eligibility for the survey could be established. It is extremely important to call on different days of the week and different times of the day in order to maximize the chances of contacting a sample case. This type of calling schedule helps to keep the number of ring-no-answer cases to a minimum, which is important because a large number of "eligibility unknown" cases is a source of potential bias in the survey results.

In generating statistical estimates from the survey data, every sample case in every implemented sample wave must be accounted for, including every case for which a screening form is not returned and every case for which eligibility was not determined. Although these cases are classified as "eligibility status unknown," they cannot be ignored in the estimation process. Sampling weight calculations include adjustments for:

- That portion of the unknown-eligibility category of nonresponse estimated to be survey eligible, and
- The category of nonresponse due to failure of sample eligibles to participate in the survey.

These sampling weight adjustments are made in an attempt to reduce the possible bias caused by missing information for sample cases. However, no adjustment can eliminate the potential for such bias.



**APPENDIX A**  
**Installation Procedures**



## INSTALLATION PROCEDURES

### 1. EXTRACTING DATA FROM THE DISKETTE

The diskette you have received contains three files:

- **DATA.FIL** - a compressed version of the screening measurement data collected in one year of the EPA/State Residential Radon surveys.
- **EXTRACT.EXE** - an executable program to extract and store the expanded version of the survey data file on your hard disk. The extract program will run on any IBM-compatible personal computer using the MS-DOS operating system, Version 2.0 or higher.
- **READ\_ME.1ST** - a copy of these instructions.

To expand the compressed file onto your hard disk, place the diskette in the appropriate drive and change to this drive. (For example, type **A:** then press the Enter key.) Run the program by typing the command **EXTRACT**, then press the Enter key. The program will ask where you want to store the expanded file. Respond by entering a full DOS pathname and filename to specify the drive, directory and name for the expanded file. For example, you may enter **C:\SURVEY\FILE1.DAT**. Note that the directory to which the file will be written (**C:\SURVEY**) must already exist on your hard disk. If the file (**FILE1.DAT**) already exists on the directory, you will be asked if you want to overwrite the file. Enter **Y** or **N**, as appropriate. The expanded file will be created under the filename and directory specified.

The program will ask if you want to extract specific State/Indian lands data from the survey data file. (Note: Read the file size considerations noted below before deciding how to extract the data.) To extract all of the data in the file, enter **A**. Enter **S** to extract only a subset of the data, rather than the entire file. You may select state codes from the list as instructed by the program. Note that the codes must be entered exactly as listed. After selecting the states, enter **1** to extract the file. If you make a mistake, enter **2** to re-enter the list of codes. You may enter **3** at any time to see the list of codes again, or **0** to exit the program.

## 2. SIZE CONSIDERATIONS

The entire expanded file for this diskette requires approximately 1.3 Megabytes of disk space. The expanded file is a standard DOS text file, with fixed-length records, one record for each house returning useable measurements. The expanded data file contains 99 ASCII text characters on each record, followed by carriage return and linefeed characters at the end of each line of text. A description of the layout of information on each record is included in the documentation for this diskette as Appendix B. The variable names listed there are the names used in EPA's analysis of the survey data.

The expanded file may be imported into a variety of DOS application programs for display and/or analysis. Most DOS applications can import DOS text files. Analysis of the data will require the use of an application program and a computer with sufficient memory available to handle a file of the required size. This should be considered when the Extract program is run. If data for all states on the disk are extracted into a single expanded file and your computer does not have additional extended or expanded memory beyond the now standard 640 Kilobytes of DOS memory, the large size of the expanded file may cause problems in many applications.

Another consideration is the number of lines (records) in the expanded file. While Excel for Windows can accommodate over 16,000 lines of data, many spreadsheet programs have a limit of approximately 8,000 lines. The entire expanded file exceeds 8,000 lines and an error will occur when importing the file into Lotus 123, for example, although sufficient memory may be available. If these size problems are a concern for your program or computer, we recommend extracting the data for each state into a separate file. The resulting expanded files for each state will be much smaller and problems due to size will be avoided.

## 3. ACCESSING DATA IN THE EXPANDED FILE

The expanded file is sorted by county within states, so that all records for a given county are



grouped together in the file. For users without access to more powerful software, selected portions of the data may be viewed and printed using any word processing program that accepts DOS text files as input. For example, in version 5.0 of Wordperfect this is accomplished by the [Control-F5, 1, 2] keystroke sequence. Select a smaller font or use the landscape page orientation to print all 99 columns of data.

To conserve disk space, the expanded file does not include blank spaces between adjacent entries on a record, so a simple printout of the file as received may be difficult to read. It is also difficult to analyze the data using a word processing program. DOS spreadsheet and database application programs may be used to reformat, graph and/or analyze the data.

The expanded file may be imported into a Lotus 123 spreadsheet, for example, using the [/File, Import, Text] keystroke sequence, if sufficient memory is available. The specific variables on each record may be parsed into individual numeric and label cells using the [/Data, Parse, Format, Create] keystroke sequence to specify the columns with the desired information. Then set the Input and Output ranges from the data parse menu, followed by Go. Other spreadsheet and database packages have specific procedures for importing DOS text file specified in the user reference manual.

#### 4. CONSIDERATIONS FOR DATA ANALYSIS

This file reports short-term screening level radon measurements, conducted in accordance with prevailing EPA protocols in effect in the year of the survey. The file contains one record for each surveyed home with a useable radon measurement collected during the survey. Some data fields may have missing entries on certain records. Although attempts were made to gather complete information on each useable radon test, it was not possible to complete all items for all surveyed homes. Missing data items are indicated by a blank data field or by a single period in the data field.

The radon concentrations were estimated using a laboratory counting procedure on the

exposed charcoal canisters, with a correction made for counts due to background radiation. This correction results in negative estimates of the radon concentration in some homes. These negative numbers should be considered a result of measurement error. In reality, radon concentrations are always non-negative.

The percent error variable recorded on the data file is the percentage measurement error reported by the EPA laboratory. This 2-sigma error bound was calculated based on the expected counting errors involved in the measurement process. No percentage measurement errors were reported by the laboratory for radon activities less than about 0.50 pCi/L. In the database the percent error variable is set to 0.0 on these records. For this variable, a percent error value of 0.0 should be treated as a missing value. In reality, the percentage measurement error associated with these measurements is very large.

The two problems noted above both derive from the lack of a specified Lower Limit of Detection (LLD) for the state survey data. One solution to both problems is to use the percent error variable to define the LLD for the radon activity variable. If the percent error is 0.0 and the radon activity is 0.5 pCi/L or less, then the radon activity measurement is below the LLD for the laboratory and its actual numeric value is meaningless. Alternatively, the negative activity values may be set to a small non-negative number, such as 0.05 pCi/L. This alternative method was used to calculate the survey statistics reported in this documentation.

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Record Layout for State Residential Radon Surveys**



### Record Layout for State Residential Radon Surveys

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Description</u>
STATE	1-2	A	2	State Postal Abbreviation (R5, R6, R7, RB, RC, RN are Indian Nations)
STATE2	3-4	A	2	State Postal Abbreviation for Indian Land Surveys (STATE = STATE2 for all other records)
STFIPS	5-6	N	2	State FIPS Code
ZIP	7-11	A	5	Zip Code
REGION	12-13	N	2	Analysis Region Code
TYPEBLDG	14	N	1	Type of Building 0 = unknown 1 = single family 2 = multi-family 3 = business 4 = school 5 = other
FLOOR	15	N	1	Floor Level 0 = basement 1 = first floor 2 = second floor or above 9 = unknown
ROOM	16	N	1	Type of Room 0 = unknown 1 = bedroom 2 = family room 3 = living room 4 = unfinished basement 5 = office 6 = classroom 7 = other

Record Layout for State Residential Radon Surveys - continued

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Description</u>
BASEMENT	17	A	1	Is There a Basement in the Building? blank = unknown Y = Yes N = No
WINDOOR	18	A	1	House Closed or Open During Test blank = unknown O = Open C = Closed
REP	19-20	N	2	Replicate Number
STRATUM	21-22	N	2	Stratum Number
WAVE	23-25	N	3	Wave Number
STARTTM	26-29	N	4	Start Time of Test (HHMM)
STOPTM	30-33	N	4	Stop Time of Test (HHMM)
STARTDT	34-39	N	6	Start Date of Test (MMDDYY)
STOPDT	40-45	N	6	Stop Date of Test (MMDDYY)
ACTIVITY	46-53	N	8.1	Activity (pCi/L)
PCTERR	54-61	N	8.1	Percent Error (2-sigma)
ADJWT	62-74	N	13.6	Analysis Weight
DUPFLAG	75	N	1	Duplicate Flag 0 = activity from single canister 1 = average activity from duplicate canisters
ZIPFLAG	76	N	1	Flag for Zip Code (ZIP) 0 = believed accurate 1 = questionable

Record Layout for State Residential Radon Surveys - continued

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Description</u>
CNTYFIPS	77-79	N	3	County FIPS Code
COUNTY	80-99	A	20	County Name





## **APPENDIX C**

### **Description of the Sample Allocation**

- **Six Year 5 States**

Arkansas  
Illinois  
Maryland  
Mississippi  
Texas  
Washington

- **Two Year 6 States**

Montana  
Virginia



# ARKANSAS (05)

Allocation #3 was used

Expected DEFF = 1.128

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Geological Classification Expected Radon Level</u>	<u>Canisters</u>	<u>Relative Sampling Rates</u>
1A	AR01 (H)	85	3.0 x
1B	AR01 (H)	490	1.5 x
2A	AR01 (H)	64	3.0 x
2B	AR01 (H)	253	1.5 x
3	AR02 (M)	319	3.0 x
4	AR02 (M)	282	1.5 x
5	AR02 (M)	233	1.0 x
6A	AR02 (M)	77	3.0 x
6B	AR02 (M)	<u>197</u>	1.0 x
Total:		2,000	

# ILLINOIS (17)

Allocation #3 was used

Expected DEFF = 1.820

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Geological Classification Expected Radon Level</u>	<u>Canisters</u>	<u>Relative Sampling Rates</u>
1A	IL01 (H)	399	2.0 x
1B	IL01 (H)	351	1.0 x
2	IL01 (H)	750	5.7 x
3	IL01 (H)	<u>750</u>	8.1 x
Total:		2,250	

# MARYLAND (24)

Allocation #3 was used

Expected DEFF = 1.671

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Geological Classification</u> <u>Expected Radon Level</u>	<u>Canisters</u>	<u>Relative</u> <u>Sampling</u> <u>Rates</u>
1	MD01 (H)	440	7.7 x
2	MD01 (H)	450	2.1 x
3	MD01 (H)	450	1.0 x
4	MD01 (H)	<u>460</u>	7.7 x
Total:		1,800	

# MISSISSIPPI (28)

Allocation #4 was used

Expected DEFF = 1.320

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Geological Classification</u> <u>Expected Radon Level</u>	<u>Canisters</u>	<u>Relative</u> <u>Sampling</u> <u>Rates</u>
1A	MS01 (H)	62	4.5 x
1B	MS01 (H)	173	1.5 x
2	MS01 (H)	289	1.5 x
3	MS01 (H)	246	1.0 x
4A	MS01 (H)	95	14.9 x
4B	MS01 (H)	151	7.4 x
5	MS01 (H)	243	1.5 x
6	MS01 (H)	<u>241</u>	4.5 x
Total:		1,500	

TEXAS (48)  
Year 5

Allocation #5 was used

Expected DEFF = 1.732

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Geological Classification Expected Radon Level</u>	<u>Canisters</u>	<u>Relative Sampling Rates</u>
1	TX01 (H)	295	5.0 x
2	TX01 (H)	198	4.0 x
3	TX01 (H)	170	110.1 x
4	TX01 (H)	347	50.0 x
5	TX01 (H)	488	2.0 x
6	TX01 (H)	327	1.0 x
7	TX01 (H)	507	4.0 x
8	TX01 (H)	333	50.0 x
9A	TX01 (H)	190	5.0 x
9B	TX01 (H)	179	1.0 x
10	TX01 (H)	413	5.0 x
11	TX01 (H)	290	1.0 x
12	TX01 (H)	445	2.0 x
13	TX01 (H)	<u>318</u>	4.0 x
Total:		4,500	

WASHINGTON (53)  
Year 5

Allocation #7 was used

Expected DEFF = 1.748

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Geological Classification Expected Radon Level</u>	<u>Canisters</u>	<u>Relative Sampling Rates</u>
1A	WA01 (H)	686	7.0 x
1B	WA01 (H)	92	35.0 x
2A	WA01 (H)	558	2.3 x
2B	WA01 (H)	75	35.0 x
3	WA02 (M)	470	5.3 x
4	WA03 (L)	<u>469</u>	1.0 x
Total:		2,350	

MONTANA (30)  
Year 6

Allocation #3 was used

Expected DEFF = 1.072

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Geological Classification Expected Radon Level</u>	<u>Canisters</u>	<u>Relative Sampling Rates</u>
1A	MT01 (H)	18	2.0 x
1B	MT01 (H)	337	1.0 x
2A	MT01 (H)	47	2.0 x
2B	MT01 (H)	231	1.0 x
3A	MT01 (H)	58	4.0 x
3B	MT01 (H)	86	2.0 x
3C	MT01 (H)	<u>223</u>	1.0 x
Total:		1,000	

VIRGINIA (51)

Year 6

Allocation #3 was used

Expected DEFF = 1.224

<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Geological Classification Expected Radon Level</u>	<u>Canisters</u>	<u>Relative Sampling Rates</u>
1	VA03 (L)	211	1.0 x
2	VA02 (M)	299	2.5 x
3	VA01 (H)	469	2.5 x
4	VA01 (H)	395	2.5 x
5	VA03 (L)	<u>226</u>	1.0 x
Total:		1,600	

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Arkansas

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
ARKANSAS	4	11
ASHLEY	4	6
BAXTER	1	33
BENTON	1	80
BOONE	1	18
BRADLEY	4	9
CALHOUN	4	6
CARROLL	1	7
CHICOT	4	12
CLARK	2	11
CLAY	5	17
CLEBURNE	1	13
CLEVELAND	4	5
COLUMBIA	4	16
CONWAY	3	24
CRAIGHEAD	5	31
CRAWFORD	1	25
CRITTENDEN	5	18
CROSS	5	4
DALLAS	4	2
DESHA	4	7
DREW	4	14
FAULKNER	3	71
FRANKLIN	1	10
FULTON	5	7
GARLAND	2	65
GRANT	4	9
GREENE	5	9
HEMPSTEAD	2	10
HOT SPRING	2	17
HOWARD	2	7
INDEPENDENCE	1	22
IZARD	1	18
JACKSON	5	9
JEFFERSON	4	33
JOHNSON	3	16
LAFAYETTE	2	13
LAWRENCE	5	12
LEE	5	4
LINCOLN	4	6
LITTLE RIVER	2	8
LOGAN	3	31
LONOKE	6	51
MADISON	1	8
MARION	1	11



Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Arkansas (Continued)

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
MILLER	2	10
MISSISSIPPI	5	14
MONROE	5	6
MONTGOMERY	2	20
NEVADA	2	8
NEWTON	1	12
OUACHITA	4	21
PERRY	3	10
PHILLIPS	5	5
PIKE	2	13
POINSETT	5	10
POLK	2	16
POPE	3	57
PRAIRIE	6	8
PULASKI	6	127
RANDOLPH	5	5
SALINE	2	36
SCOTT	3	20
SEARCY	1	10
SEBASTIAN	1	68
SEVIER	2	11
SHARP	5	12
STONE	1	21
ST. FRANCIS	5	9
UNION	4	42
VAN BUREN	1	14
WASHINGTON	1	63
WHITE	1	48
WOODRUFF	5	1
YELL	3	22

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Illinois

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
ADAMS	2	22
ALEXANDER	3	7
BOND	3	2
BOONE	1	3
BROWN	2	1
BUREAU	1	5
CALHOUN	3	3
CARROLL	1	3
CASS	2	2
CHAMPAIGN	2	33
CHRISTIAN	2	13
CLARK	2	6
CLAY	3	6
CLINTON	3	14
COLES	2	10
COOK	1	121
CRAWFORD	3	15
CUMBERLAND	2	5
DE KALB	1	0
DE WITT	2	11
DOUGLAS	2	2
DU PAGE	1	80
EDGAR	2	7
EDWARDS	3	3
EFFINGHAM	3	17
FAYETTE	3	9
FORD	2	5
FRANKLIN	3	19
FULTON	2	14
GALLATIN	3	3
GREENE	3	4
GRUNDY	1	2
HAMILTON	3	4
HANCOCK	2	6
HARDIN	3	0
HENDERSON	2	4
HENRY	2	14
IROQUOIS	1	3
JACKSON	3	16
JASPER	3	4
JEFFERSON	3	13
JERSEY	3	5
JO DAVIESS	1	1
JOHNSON	3	2
KANE	1	24

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Illinois (Continued)

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
KANKAKEE	1	10
KENDALL	1	4
KNOX	2	22
LA SALLE	1	11
LAKE	1	29
LAWRENCE	3	2
LEE	1	2
LIVINGSTON	1	5
LOGAN	2	5
MACON	2	30
MACOUPIN	3	20
MADISON	3	110
MARION	3	12
MARSHALL	1	4
MASON	2	4
MASSAC	3	7
MCDONOUGH	2	13
MCHENRY	1	23
MCLEAN	2	26
MENARD	2	5
MERCER	2	8
MONROE	3	16
MONTGOMERY	3	10
MORGAN	2	12
MOULTRIE	2	7
OGLE	1	7
PEORIA	2	55
PERRY	3	9
PLATT	2	4
PIKE	2	6
POPE	3	1
PULASKI	3	5
PUTNAM	1	0
RANDOLPH	3	20
RICHLAND	3	9
ROCK ISLAND	2	43
SALINE	3	14
SANGAMON	2	42
SCHUYLER	2	1
SCOTT	2	4
SHELBY	2	6
STARK	2	1
STEPHENSON	1	5
ST. CLAIR	3	78
TAZEWELL	2	41

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Illinois (Continued)

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
UNION	3	9
VERMILION	2	35
WABASH	3	6
WARREN	2	7
WASHINGTON	3	11
WAYNE	3	7
WHITE	3	9
WHITESIDE	1	8
WILL	1	21
WILLIAMSON	3	20
WINNEBAGO	1	19
WOODFORD	2	7

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Maryland

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
ALLEGANY	4	74
ANNE ARUNDEL	2	86
BALTIMORE	3	40
BALTIMORE CITY	3	79
CALVERT	2	16
CAROLINE	1	23
CARROLL	3	16
CECIL	1	61
CHARLES	2	19
DORCHESTER	1	18
FREDERICK	4	96
GARRETT	4	31
HARFORD	3	27
HOWARD	3	30
KENT	1	16
MONTGOMERY	3	101
PRINCE GEORGE'S	2	126
QUEEN ANNE'S	1	19
SOMERSET	1	17
ST. MARY'S	2	15
TALBOT	1	25
WASHINGTON	4	115
WICOMICO	1	50
WORCESTER	1	26

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Mississippi

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
ADAMS	2	9
ALCORN	6	40
AMITE	2	3
ATTALA	2	4
BENTON	5	7
BOLIVAR	5	11
CALHOUN	5	3
CARROLL	5	5
CHICKASAW	5	1
CHOCTAW	2	3
CLAIBORNE	2	2
CLARKE	2	6
CLAY	2	6
COAHOMA	5	9
COPIAH	3	6
COVINGTON	2	6
DE SOTO	5	19
FORREST	2	23
FRANKLIN	3	1
GEORGE	1	9
GREENE	1	10
GRENADA	5	9
HANCOCK	1	11
HARRISON	1	40
HINDS	3	57
HOLMES	2	3
HUMPHREYS	4	33
ISSAQUENA	4	4
ITAWAMBA	6	23
JACKSON	1	37
JASPER	2	7
JEFFERSON	2	3
JEFFERSON DAVIS	2	6
JONES	2	17
KEMPER	3	2
LAFAYETTE	5	12
LAMAR	2	12
LAUDERDALE	3	13
LAWRENCE	3	3
LEAKE	3	7
LEE	6	67
LEFLORE	5	12
LINCOLN	3	6
LOWNDES	3	12
MADISON	3	10

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Mississippi (Continued)

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
MARION	2	6
MARSHALL	5	1
MONROE	2	11
MONTGOMERY	5	2
NESHOBA	3	1
NEWTON	3	5
NOXUBEE	3	2
OKTIBBEHA	2	17
PANOLA	5	8
PEARL RIVER	1	13
PERRY	1	8
PIKE	2	9
PONTOTOC	5	10
PRENTISS	6	25
QUITMAN	5	3
RANKIN	3	20
SCOTT	3	4
SHARKEY	4	19
SIMPSON	3	5
SMITH	3	5
STONE	1	9
SUNFLOWER	5	7
TALLAHATCHIE	5	1
TATE	5	6
TIPPAH	5	14
TISHOMINGO	6	24
TUNICA	5	2
UNION	5	13
WALTHALL	2	4
WARREN	2	14
WASHINGTON	4	70
WAYNE	2	6
WEBSTER	5	5
WILKINSON	2	3
WINSTON	3	6
YALOBUSHA	5	4
YAZOO	2	9

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Montana

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
BEAVERHEAD	2	15
BIG HORN	3	9
BLAINE	3	10
BROADWATER	2	4
CARBON	3	11
CARTER	3	9
CASCADE	1	70
CHOUTEAU	1	12
CUSTER	3	14
DANIELS	3	5
DAWSON	3	10
DEER LODGE	2	9
FALLON	3	5
FERGUS	3	12
FLATHEAD	1	43
GALLATIN	2	49
GARFIELD	3	5
GLACIER	1	5
GOLDEN VALLEY	3	6
GRANITE	2	4
HILL	1	9
JEFFERSON	2	6
JUDITH BASIN	2	7
LAKE	1	9
LEWIS AND CLARK	2	58
LIBERTY	1	4
LINCOLN	1	20
MADISON	2	8
MCCONE	3	8
MEAGHER	2	6
MINERAL	1	5
MISSOULA	1	60
MUSSELSHELL	3	4
PARK	2	14
PETROLEUM	3	3
PHILLIPS	3	11
PONDERA	1	6
POWDER RIVER	3	12
POWELL	2	6
PRAIRIE	3	6
RAVALLI	2	30
RICHLAND	3	11
ROOSEVELT	3	4
ROSEBUD	3	11
SANDERS	1	14



Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Montana (Continued)

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
SHERIDAN	3	9
SILVER BOW	2	35
STILLWATER	3	9
SWEET GRASS	2	10
TETON	1	5
TOOLE	1	2
TREASURE	3	6
VALLEY	3	7
WHEATLAND	2	5
WIBAUX	3	5
YELLOWSTONE	3	101
YELLOWSTONE PARK	2	0

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Texas

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
ANDERSON	7	8
ANDREWS	13	2
ANGELINA	10	12
ARANSAS	12	2
ARCHER	5	2
ARMSTRONG	13	3
ATASCOSA	10	11
AUSTIN	10	8
BAILEY	13	3
BANDERA	1	5
BASTROP	9	9
BAYLOR	5	2
BEE	10	5
BELL	5	17
BEXAR	9	57
BLANCO	1	3
BORDEN	4	2
BOSQUE	5	4
BOWIE	7	21
BRAZORIA	12	24
BRAZOS	7	19
BREWSTER	3	57
BRISCOE	13	2
BROOKS	12	0
BROWN	5	6
BURLESON	7	0
BURNET	8	97
CALDWELL	9	7
CALHOUN	12	1
CALLAHAN	5	5
CAMERON	12	9
CAMP	7	2
CARSON	13	4
CASS	7	9
CASTRO	13	3
CHAMBERS	12	0
CHEROKEE	7	7
CHILDRESS	5	0
CLAY	5	2
COCHRAN	13	1
COKE	5	1
COLEMAN	5	2
COLLIN	5	35
COLLINGSWORTH	5	0
COLORADO	10	6

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Texas (Continued)

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
COMAL	9	18
COMANCHE	5	4
CONCHO	5	2
COOKE	5	7
CORYELL	5	6
COTTLE	5	0
CRANE	1	1
CROCKETT	1	2
CROSBY	13	3
CULBERSON	1	0
DALLAM	13	1
DALLAS	6	83
DAWSON	13	3
DE WITT	10	4
DEAF SMITH	13	6
DELTA	5	1
DENTON	5	30
DICKENS	5	1
DIMMIT	1	2
DONLEY	13	1
DUVAL	10	3
EASTLAND	5	5
ECTOR	1	39
EDWARDS	1	0
EL PASO	2	93
ELLIS	5	13
ERATH	5	6
FALLS	5	2
FANNIN	5	2
FAYETTE	10	13
FISHER	5	1
FLOYD	13	2
FOARD	5	0
FORT BEND	12	23
FRANKLIN	7	2
FREESTONE	7	3
FRIO	1	3
GAINES	13	2
GALVESTON	12	35
GARZA	4	20
GILLESPIE	1	12
GLASSCOCK	1	2
GOLIAD	10	4
GONZALES	10	5
GRAY	13	9

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Texas (Continued)

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
GRAYSON	5	14
GREGG	7	21
GRIMES	10	3
GUADALUPE	9	15
HALE	13	15
HALL	5	1
HAMILTON	5	1
HANSFORD	13	3
HARDEMAN	5	0
HARDIN	12	5
HARRIS	11	115
HARRISON	7	21
HARTLEY	13	1
HASKELL	5	1
HAYS	9	15
HEMPHILL	13	1
HENDERSON	7	14
HIDALGO	12	20
HILL	5	2
HOCKLEY	13	7
HOOD	5	7
HOPKINS	7	6
HOUSTON	7	7
HOWARD	4	114
HUDSPETH	1	2
HUNT	5	9
HUTCHINSON	13	14
IRION	1	0
JACK	5	1
JACKSON	12	0
JASPER	10	11
JEFF DAVIS	3	16
JEFFERSON	12	25
JIM HOGG	10	1
JIM WELLS	12	0
JOHNSON	5	7
JONES	5	5
KARNES	10	3
KAUFMAN	5	5
KENDALL	1	5
KENEDY	12	0
KENT	5	0
KERR	1	20
KIMBLE	1	0
KING	5	0

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Texas (Continued)

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
KINNEY	1	3
KLEBERG	12	1
KNOX	5	1
LA SALLE	1	1
LAMAR	5	5
LAMB	13	10
LAMPASAS	5	2
LAVACA	10	9
LEE	7	3
LEON	7	3
LIBERTY	12	2
LIMESTONE	7	4
LIPSCOMB	13	2
LIVE OAK	10	4
LLANO	8	46
LOVING	1	0
LUBBOCK	13	68
LYNN	13	1
MADISON	7	2
MARION	7	3
MARTIN	13	3
MASON	8	20
MATAGORDA	12	8
MAVERICK	1	3
MCCULLOCH	8	26
MCLENNAN	5	28
MCMULLEN	10	1
MEDINA	1	9
MENARD	1	3
MIDLAND	1	48
MILAM	7	7
MILLS	5	0
MITCHELL	4	34
MONTAGUE	5	3
MONTGOMERY	10	27
MOORE	13	6
MORRIS	7	7
MOTLEY	5	0
NACOGDOCHES	7	9
NAVARRO	5	3
NEWTON	10	2
NOLAN	5	5
NUECES	12	17
OCHILTREE	13	5
OLDHAM	13	0

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Texas (Continued)

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
ORANGE	12	13
PALO PINTO	5	6
PANOLA	7	9
PARKER	5	5
PARMER	13	4
PECOS	1	6
POLK	10	7
POTTER	13	29
PRESIDIO	3	43
RAINS	7	3
RANDALL	13	20
REAGAN	1	0
REAL	1	2
RED RIVER	5	1
REEVES	1	9
REFUGIO	12	1
ROBERTS	13	0
ROBERTSON	7	5
ROCKWALL	6	3
RUNNELS	5	4
RUSK	7	10
SABINE	10	3
SAN AUGUSTINE	10	5
SAN JACINTO	10	5
SAN PATRICIO	12	7
SAN SABA	8	30
SCHLEICHER	1	1
SCURRY	4	75
SHACKELFORD	5	2
SHELBY	7	3
SHERMAN	13	3
SMITH	7	46
SOMERVELL	5	0
STARR	12	1
STEPHENS	5	3
STERLING	4	1
STONEWALL	5	1
SUTTON	1	1
SWISHER	13	5
TARRANT	6	83
TAYLOR	5	26
TERRELL	1	0
TERRY	13	5
THROCKMORTON	5	1
TITUS	7	7

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Texas (Continued)

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
TOM GREEN	5	15
TRAVIS	9	53
TRINITY	10	1
TYLER	10	4
UPSHUR	7	9
UPTON	1	1
UVALDE	1	6
VAL VERDE	1	8
VAN ZANDT	7	8
VICTORIA	12	9
WALKER	10	12
WALLER	10	6
WARD	1	6
WASHINGTON	10	5
WEBB	10	19
WHARTON	12	3
WHEELER	13	4
WICHITA	5	13
WILBARGER	5	0
WILLACY	12	2
WILLIAMSON	9	38
WILSON	9	6
WINKLER	1	3
WISE	5	3
WOOD	7	16
YOAKUM	13	4
YOUNG	5	2
ZAPATA	10	0
ZAVALA	1	4

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Virginia

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
ACCOMACK	5	5
ALBEMARLE	2	12
ALEXANDRIA CITY	1	12
ALLEGHANY	3	5
AMELIA	4	4
AMHERST	3	14
APPOMATTOX	3	5
ARLINGTON	1	14
AUGUSTA	2	19
BATH	2	2
BEDFORD	3	15
BEDFORD CITY	3	5
BLAND	3	0
BOTETOURT	3	9
BRISTOL	3	6
BRUNSWICK	4	3
BUCHANAN	3	3
BUCKINGHAM	4	4
BUENA VISTA	2	5
CAMPBELL	3	17
CAROLINE	2	3
CARROLL	3	11
CHARLES CITY	4	1
CHARLOTTE	4	4
CHARLOTTESVILLE	2	15
CHESAPEAKE	5	23
CHESTERFIELD	4	59
CLARKE	2	3
CLIFTON FORGE	3	1
COLONIAL HEIGHTS	4	5
COVINGTON	3	1
CRAIG	3	2
CULPEPER	2	6
CUMBERLAND	4	2
DANVILLE	3	14
DICKENSON	3	6
DINWIDDIE	4	6
EMPORIA	4	2
ESSEX	5	2
FAIRFAX	1	70
FAIRFAX-CITY	1	21
FALLS CHURCH	1	2
FAUQUIER	2	9
FLOYD	3	5
FLUVANNA	2	2



Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Virginia (Continued)

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
FRANKLIN	3	7
FRANKLIN-CITY	5	0
FREDERICK	2	9
FREDERICKSBURG	2	7
GALAX	3	3
GILES	3	8
GLOUCESTER	5	3
GOOCHLAND	4	3
GRAYSON	3	6
GREENE	2	1
GREENSVILLE	4	2
HALIFAX	4	2
HAMPTON	5	7
HANOVER	4	13
HARRISONBURG	2	5
HENRICO	4	30
HENRY	3	13
HIGHLAND	2	0
HOPEWELL	4	5
ISLE OF WIGHT	5	1
JAMES CITY	5	1
KING AND QUEEN	5	0
KING GEORGE	2	1
KING WILLIAM	5	3
LANCASTER	5	2
LEE	3	3
LEXINGTON	2	3
LOUDOUN	1	13
LOUISA	2	5
LUNENBURG	4	3
LYNCHBURG	3	20
MADISON	2	6
MANASSAS	1	7
MANASSAS PARK	1	0
MARTINSVILLE	3	7
MATHEWS	5	1
MECKLENBURG	4	13
MIDDLESEX	5	1
MONTGOMERY	3	11
NELSON	2	10
NEW KENT	4	6
NEWPORT NEWS	5	13
NORFOLK	5	14
NORTHAMPTON	5	2
NORTHUMBERLAND	5	2

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Virginia (Continued)

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
NORTON	3	0
NOTTOWAY	4	1
ORANGE	2	7
PAGE	2	5
PATRICK	3	8
PETERSBURG	4	5
PITTSYLVANIA	3	21
POQUOSON	5	1
PORTSMOUTH	5	6
POWHATAN	4	3
PRINCE EDWARD	4	4
PRINCE GEORGE	4	3
PRINCE WILLIAM	1	16
PULASKI	3	11
RADFORD	3	2
RAPPAHANNOCK	2	7
RICHMOND	5	0
RICHMOND-CITY	4	73
ROANOKE	3	12
ROANOKE-CITY	3	45
ROCKBRIDGE	2	6
ROCKINGHAM	2	15
RUSSELL	3	9
SALEM	3	6
SCOTT	3	4
SHENANDOAH	2	15
SMYTH	3	14
SOUTH BOSTON	4	3
SOUTHAMPTON	5	2
SPOTSYLVANIA	2	7
STAFFORD	2	11
STAUNTON	2	4
SUFFOLK	5	3
SURRY	4	1
SUSSEX	4	2
TAZEWELL	3	20
VIRGINIA BEACH	5	39
WARREN	2	7
WASHINGTON	3	20
WAYNESBORO	2	6
WESTMORELAND	5	1
WILLIAMSBURG	5	1
WINCHESTER	2	9
WISE	3	5
WYTHE	3	7
YORK	5	3

Table C-1 Distribution of Canisters per County for Washington

COUNTY	REGION	# CANISTERS
ADAMS	3	11
ASOTIN	3	18
BENTON	3	106
CHELAN	4	9
CLALLAM	2	22
CLARK	2	69
COLUMBIA	3	5
COWLITZ	2	35
DOUGLAS	1	17
FERRY	1	28
FRANKLIN	3	26
GARFIELD	3	5
GRANT	1	54
GRAYS HARBOR	2	29
ISLAND	4	10
JEFFERSON	2	11
KING	4	215
KITSAP	4	34
KITTITAS	4	4
KLICKITAT	3	22
LEWIS	2	24
LINCOLN	1	15
MASON	2	18
OKANOGAN	1	43
PACIFIC	2	11
PEND OREILLE	1	55
PIERCE	2	132
SAN JUAN	4	0
SKAGIT	4	9
SKAMANIA	2	35
SNOHOMISH	4	63
SPOKANE	1	449
STEVENS	1	47
THURSTON	2	45
WAHKIAKUM	2	21
WALLA WALLA	3	56
WHATCOM	4	17
WHITMAN	3	31
YAKIMA	3	134



## **APPENDIX D**

### **Regional Radon Coordinators and Sources of Information Concerning Other State-Wide Radon Studies**



Regional Radon Coordinators		
EPA REGION	REGIONAL OFFICE	CONTACT
1	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency John F. Kennedy Federal Building Room 2311 Boston, MA 02203	Mona Haywood (617) 565-9402
2	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 26 Federal Plaza Room 1137-L New York, NY 10278	Lorraine Koehler (212) 264-0546
3	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (3AM12) 841 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19107	Lewis Felleisen (215) 597-8326
4	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 345 Courtland Street, NE Atlanta, GA 30365	Paul Wagner (404) 347-3907
5	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Mail Code (AT-18J) 77 West Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604	Julie Beckman (312) 886-6063
6	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Air Enforcement Branch (6T-E) 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, TX 75202	Michael Miller (214) 655-7550
7	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 726 Minnesota Avenue Kansas City, KS 66101	Bob Hunt (913) 551-7611
8	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (8HWM-RP) Suite 500 999 18th Street Denver, CO 80202	Milton W. Lammering (303) 293-1440
9	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (A1-1) 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105	Louise Hill (415) 744-1046
10	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (AT-082) 1200 Sixth Avenue Seattle, WA 98101	Misha Vakoc (206) 553-7299

**Sources of Information Concerning Other State-Wide Radon Studies**

<b>STATE</b>	<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>
New Jersey	Department of Environmental Protection 729 Alexander Road Princeton, NJ 08540	Robert Stern (800) 648-0394 (609) 987-6402
New York	State Health Department Bureau of Environmental Radiation Protection Corning Tower Albany, NY 12237	Laurence Keefe (800) 458-1158 (518) 458-6450
North Carolina	Department of Human Resources Radiation Protection Section 701 Barbour Drive Raleigh, NC 27603-2008	Dr. Felix Fong (919) 733-4283
Idaho	Department of Health and Welfare Bureau of Preventive Medicine 450 West State Street Boise, ID 83720	Janne Mitten (208) 334-5927
Florida	Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services 1317 Winewood Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0700	N. Michael Gilly (800) 543-8279 (904) 488-1525
South Carolina	Department of Health and Environmental Control Bureau of Radiological Health 2600 Bull Street Colombia, SC 29201	Nolan Bivens (803) 734-4700
Oregon	Department of Human Services Health Division 1400 SW 5th Avenue Portland, OR 97201	Ray Paris (503) 229-5797
Washington	Department of Health Office of Radiation Protection Airdustrial Building 5, LE-13 Olympia, WA 98504	Robert Mooney (206) 586-3303



STATE	AGENCY	CONTACT
Montana	Department of Health and Environmental Sciences Cogswell Building Helena, MT 59620	Adrian Howe (406) 444-3671
New Hampshire	Division of Public Health Serv. Bureau of Radiological Health 6 Hazen Drive Concord, NH 03301	Joy Hanington (603) 271-4674
Virginia	Department of Health Bureau of Radiological Health 109 Governor Street Richmond, VA 23219	Leslie Foldesi (800) 468-0138 (804) 786-5932
Nevada	Department of Human Resources Radiological Health Section 505 East King Street, Rm. 203 Carson City, NV 89710	Stan Marshall (702) 885-5394
Louisiana	Louisiana Nuclear Energy Division Department of Environmental Qual. P.O. Box 14690 Baton Rouge, LA 70898	Jay Mason (504) 925-4518



## **APPENDIX E**

### **Procedure for Estimating Means, Proportions, Standard Errors and Confidence Intervals for Indian Lands:**

**Eastern Cherokee Nation**



Procedure for Estimating Means,  
Proportions, Standard Errors and Confidence Intervals  
for the Eastern Cherokee Nation

The EPA/Eastern Cherokee Radon Survey was designed to include all non-HUD housing unit in the North Carolina portion of the Cherokee Nation. Of 786 non-HUD housing units, 594 responded with valid canister reading during the survey period. The survey can therefore be thought of as a self-weighting simple random sample with the analysis weights used to adjust for nonresponse. Formulas for generating estimates of means, proportions and standard errors are given below. An approximate 95 percent confidence interval can be derived by adding to the estimate and subtracting from the estimate two standard errors of the estimate.

NOTATION

Let,  $Y_i$  = observed radon measurement for the  $i^{\text{th}}$  household ( $i=1,\dots,n$ );  
 $W_i$  = sampling weight associated with  $Y_i$  ( $W_i = 768/564 = 1.32323$  for respondents and  $W_i=0$  for nonrespondents);  
 $J_{ri}$  =  $\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i^{\text{th}} \text{ household is included in the } r^{\text{th}} \text{ region or} \\ & \text{subclass} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise;} \end{cases}$   
 $L_{di}$  =  $\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if measurement on } i^{\text{th}} \text{ household is greater than} \\ & X \text{ pCi/L} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise;} \end{cases}$   
 $n_r$  = number of sample households in region (or subclass)  $r$ ;

$$N = \sum_{i=1}^n W_i ;$$

$$N_r = \sum_{i=1}^n J_{ri} W_i ;$$

$$f = \frac{n}{N} ;$$

$$s^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i^2 - \left| \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \right|^2 / n}{n-1} ;$$

$$s_r^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n J_{ri} Y_i^2 - \left| \sum_{i=1}^n J_{ri} Y_i \right|^2 / n}{n-1} ; \text{ and}$$

$$S.E. (est) = [VAR (est.)]^{1/2}$$

### ESTIMATION

Because the sample is self-weighting, the true overall mean radon level can be estimated with the simple mean of the sample cases as

$$Y^* = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i}{n} . \quad (1)$$

The variance of  $Y^*$  is estimated as

$$Var(Y^*) = (1-f) \frac{s^2}{n} , \quad (2)$$

and the standard error is obtained as  $S.E.(Y^*) = [VAR (Y^*)]^{1/2}$ . The estimated mean radon level for the  $r^{th}$  region (or subclass), consisting of 100 or more households, is given by the average of the households making up the region, namely

$$Y_r^* = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n J_{ri} Y_i}{n_r} . \quad (3)$$

The variance of  $Y_r^*$  is estimated as

$$\text{Var}(Y_r^*) = (1-f) \frac{s_r^2}{n_r} \quad , \quad (4)$$

and the standard error is obtained as  $\text{S.E.}(Y_r^*) = [\text{Var}(Y_r^*)]^{1/2}$ .

The true proportion of households with radon levels exceeding  $X$  pCi/L can be estimated as

$$p^* = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n I_{xi}}{n} \quad . \quad (5)$$

The estimate of  $p^*$  is given by

$$\text{Var}(p^*) = (1-f) \left| \frac{p^*(1-p^*)}{n-1} \right| \quad , \quad (6)$$

and the standard error is obtained as  $\text{S.E.}(p^*) = [\text{Var}(p^*)]^{1/2}$ . The estimated proportion of households in the  $r^{\text{th}}$  region (i.e., combination of households) with radon levels exceeding  $X$  pCi/L is given by

$$p_r^* = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n J_{ri} Y_i}{n_r} \quad . \quad (7)$$

The variance of  $p_r^*$  is estimated as

$$\text{Var}(p_r^*) = (1-f) \left| \frac{p_r^*(1-p_r^*)}{n_r-1} \right| \quad , \quad (8)$$

and the standard error is obtained as  $\text{S.E.}(p_r^*) = [\text{Var}(p_r^*)]^{1/2}$ .

